

Whereas since its enactment, the GI Bill of Rights has provided education or training for approximately 7,800,000 men and women, including 2,200,000 in college, 3,400,000 in other schools, 1,400,000 in vocational education, and 690,000 in farm training and, in addition, 2,100,000 World War II veterans purchased homes through the GI Bill;

Whereas as a result of the benefits available to veterans through the initial GI Bill, the Nation gained over 800,000 professionals as the GI Bill transformed these veterans into 450,000 engineers, 238,000 teachers, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, and 22,000 dentists;

Whereas President Truman established the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1945 to recognize notable service during war and in 1963, President Kennedy reinstated the medal to honor the achievement of civilians during peacetime;

Whereas pursuant to Executive Order No. 11085, the Medal of Freedom may be awarded to any person who has made an especially meritorious contribution to "(1) the security or national interest of the United States, or (2) world peace, or (3) other significant public or private endeavors"; and

Whereas Harry Colmery, noted for his service in the military, in the legal sector, and on behalf of the Nation's veterans, clearly meets the criteria established for the Presidential Medal of Freedom; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution honoring the life of Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, KS, and expressing the sense of Congress that the President should award Mr. Colmery the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously.

As my colleagues know, the Presidential Medal of Freedom is this Nation's highest civilian honor. Thus, my colleagues may ask, "What in particular makes the life of Harry Colmery stand out?" I would answer that just two weekends ago, we in Washington saw the answer to this question when thousands of veterans gathered on the National Mall for the dedication of the World War II Memorial. These individuals and millions of their fellow soldiers benefited from the work of Harry Colmery, the author of the initial draft of the Servicemen's Readjustment act of 1944, also known as the GI Bill of Rights.

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 was aimed to aid military veterans as they transitioned back into civilian life following the conclusion of World War II by providing certain useful benefits. Among the historic benefits of this bill was a new educational benefit that would revolutionize America's higher education system. More than 2 million eligible men and women went to college using these educational benefits in the decade following World War II. The result was an American workforce enriched by 450,000 engineers, 238,000 teachers, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, 22,000 dentists, and another million college-educated men and women. An estimated 5 million additional men and women received other

schooling or job training under the provisions of the GI Bill.

The success of the GI Bill of Rights was unmistakable. A Veterans Administration study in 1965 showed that the increased earning power of GI Bill college graduates led to Federal income tax revenues rising by more than a billion dollars annually. In less than 20 years, the \$14 billion cost of the original program had been recovered. Americans like programs that work and, in the decades following World War II, Congress built on the success of the original GI Bill. The most recent Montgomery GI Bill, approved in 1985, was designed not only to help veterans make a transition into the workforce through additional education and training benefits, but also to help support the concept of an all-volunteer military. As my colleagues know, the promise of educational benefits has been one of the most successful tools given to our Nation's military recruiters.

Harry Colmery's dedicated service to the veterans of this Nation and the long reach of his work into the lives of millions of Americans certainly make him an individual worthy of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I call on my fellow Senators to support this resolution so that Harry Colmery, even posthumously, may receive the honor he is due.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 118—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT AN ARTISTIC TRIBUTE TO COMMEMORATE THE SPEECH GIVEN BY PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN AT THE BRANDENBURG GATE ON JUNE 12, 1987, SHOULD BE PLACED WITHIN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

Mr. ALLARD submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 118

Whereas the people of the United States successfully defended freedom and democracy for over 40 years in a global Cold War against an aggressive Communist tyranny;

Whereas President Ronald Wilson Reagan's demonstration of unwavering personal conviction during this conflict served to inspire millions of people throughout the United States and around the world to seek democracy, freedom, and greater individual liberty; and

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan's determined stand against the Soviet empire during his eight years as President served as the catalyst for the end of that regime: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that an artistic tribute to commemorate the speech given by President Ronald Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate on June 12, 1987, during which he uttered the immortal lines "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!", should be placed within the United States Capitol.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3448. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3200 submitted by Mr. INHOFE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3448. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3200 submitted by Mr. INHOFE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. 1055. ASSISTANCE FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO ENGAGE IN PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, may transfer funds to the Secretary of State to provide assistance during fiscal year 2005 to military or security forces in a foreign country to enhance the capability of such country to participate in an international peacekeeping or peace enforcement operation.

(b) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance provided under subsection (a) may be used to provide equipment, supplies, training, or funding.

(c) FUNDING LIMITATION.—Assistance provided under subsection (a) may not exceed \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2005 from funds made available to the Department of Defense.

(d) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—The authority to provide assistance under this section is in addition to any other authority to provide assistance to a foreign country or the military or security forces of such country.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday June 17th, at 2:30 p.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 2513, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority for the planning, design, and